[Translation]

Maruti Udyog

*49. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any dispute has cropped up over the appointment of Managing Director of Maruti Udyog Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons behind the dispute;

(c) whether any positive measures have been taken to settle the dispute;

(d) if so, the details along-with the present status thereof;

(e) whether M/s. Suzuki motor Corporation of Japan has approached the Internation Chamber of Commerce for seeking their intervention and arbitration; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Maruti Udyog Limited (MUL) has been a success story because of the concessions and help extended by the Government of India as also the active involvement of Suzuki Motor Corporation (SMC) and the efforts of MUL employees and management as a whole. As per the provisions of the Joint Venture Agreement (JVA) of 2nd October 1982 between the Government of India, SMC and MUL, as amended by the Subscription and Amendment Agreement (SAA) of 2nd June 1992, SMC nominated Shri R.C. Bhargava as Managing Director (MD) of MUL in 1992. As per the said Agreements, the Government, in its turn, nominated Shri RSSLN Bhaskarudu as Managing Director, MUL on 27th August 1997. SMC has objected to this appointment on the grounds that the Government did not consult SMC or take its concurrence while nominating Shri Bhaskarudu, and that Shri Bhaskrudu did not have the ability to head a company of the size of MUL. The action of the Government has been fully in conformity with letter and spirit of the subsisting agreements.

Shri Bhaskarudu, who has been with MUL since 1983, has been a Director for over nine years, including 4 years as Joint Managing Director and has acted as Managing Director in the absence of latter. He has handled competently the Project, Production and Materials Management divisions of MUL. He is also the senior most Director in MUL and is eminently qualified to head the Company. Government has taken into account the merit and seniority of all eligible candidates in nominating Shri Bhaskarudu as the MD.

(c) and (d) Discussions held with SMC representatives on 17th, 20th and 21st September 1997 to resolve the differences proved unsuccessful.

(e) and (f) SMC has submitted a Request for Arbitration to the Internation Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce raising a dispute against the Government of India and Maruti Udyog Ltd. on the above grounds.

[English]

Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme

*50. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :
SHRI CHAMANLAL GUPTA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the aim of VDIS (Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme) announced by the Government;

(b) the amount spent on the advertisement of this Scheme upto September 1997;

(c) the total number of people who disclosed their assets/income under VDIS, till date, along-with the response of the Scheme in the States;

(d) the total value of such assets;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to encourage people to disclose their assets/income;

(f) the extent to which the objectives of the scheme have been fulfilled;

(g) whether any analysis has been made about the adverse effect of the above scheme; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme was announced to mop up substantial amount of black money for productive purposes.

(b) The total amount sanctioned for the multimedia publicity of this Scheme was Rs. 29.4 crores. A total sum of Rs. 84.00 lakh has been released to the ad. agencies on the advertisement of the Scheme upto September, 1997.

(c) to (h) This Scheme guarantees strict confidentiality in respect of the declarations and the declarants. Keeping this in view, the Scheme provided that declarations shall be filed only to the Commissioners of Income-tax. For this reason, the details are not being obtained centrally from the Commissioners regarding the number of declarants or the amounts disclosed, etc. It has been decided to take stock only towards the end of the period of operation of the Scheme.